

From Tom Margro, General Manager

Good Cheer and Family Treasures for the Holidays

As we close 2000, I wish all BART employees happiness, good fortune and the joy of family togetherness. I wish the best for you this Holiday Season as you take time with family and friends to celebrate and be together.

I believe 2000 was a very good year for BART, and I look forward to working together next year as we continue progress on such programs as systemwide renovations and building our new line to the San Francisco International Airport.

Among our accomplishments, we held two first-time cultural celebrations, distinguishing Black History Month with a celebration of history and culture through storytelling, and marking Chinese New Year with an event that showcased Chinese history and tradition. Our Take Our Sons and Daughters to Work event and annual Summer Youth Program gave the young people in our community a chance to learn more about BART and the world of work, valuable lessons that will stay with them as they continue to prosper. We also made the community a part of BART with our Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration, Cinco de Mayo celebration, safety tour for the visually impaired and the BART Police achievement awards. We enjoyed the fellowship of our co-workers at BART's annual golf tournament and BART Rodeo. Proudly, our BART maintainers went to the APTA International Rodeo and earned back our place as having the Number One maintainers team in the nation. Congratulations to Dave Mohn, Greg Roberson and Jobi Poulouse.

I wish you all a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your commitment to operating one of the finest public rail transportation systems in the nation. I commend your accomplishments and look forward to our continued progress.

b3

T. E. Margro



New Hires and Promotions

Gary Gee Promoted

Gary Gee has been promoted to BART Chief of Police, replacing Chief Harold Taylor, who retired. Gary became the first employee to rise through the ranks of the BART Police Department to hold the top job. Gary joined the BART Police in its infancy in 1973, and served as an officer, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, field training officer before being promoted in 1995 to commander. Prior to joining BART, Gary worked for the police departments in Sausalito and San Rafael. The BART Police Department includes 182 sworn officers and 81 support staff. Congratulations, Gary!!



James E. McHenry has been promoted to assistant chief transportation officer, reporting to Chief Transportation Officer Al Johnson. Jim brings more than 25 years of BART transit operations experience to his new position, including rail, station and working in the Operations Control Center. He is responsible for managing the service delivery on the Concord Line.

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A Golfing Miracle

Most golfers go their entire leisure activity careers in the sport without the coveted Hole in One. After playing 11 years of golf with his regular foursome, Station Agent Luis Buitrago got a hole in one at the eleventh hole at the Blue Rock Golf Course in Vallejo. It was a par three, 132-yard up hill shot, which he hit with an 11 Wood he borrowed from retired Station Agent Jim Ginobach, who witnessed the miracle along with station agents Bill Farr and Dave Adam. Congratulations, Lou! b3



Summer Youth Program Provides Valuable Work Experience

Since 1968, high school students have spent their summers working at BART, learning about the world of work and preparing themselves for college. This past summer, 65 students from high school career academies and community agencies worked alongside BART employees as part of BART's Summer Youth Employment and Training Program.

Vivian Faye of BART's Office of Civil Rights administers the program, which enjoys support throughout the District. "A lot of people have a passion for this program," she says. "Those who mentor students help them learn not just about holding a job, but how to become responsible young adults."

Vivian estimates the summer program has drawn more than 2,500 students in its 32-year history. This year, students came from career academies in engineering, business and computers at Oakland Technical, Skyline and McClymonds high schools in Oakland. Students also participated from the international trade and transportation and fine arts academies at Oakland Technical High School; the electronics academy at Fremont High School; the City of Richmond Mayor's Private Industry Council program and the Oakland Youth Employment Council.

Several departments at BART participated in the summer youth program, including electrical/mechanical engineering, control and scheduling, BART Police, payroll, procurement, system safety, personnel services, accounts payable, disability services, station operations, transportation and system service.

Henry Miranda supervised two students this past summer. Tommy Tran, a sophomore at Skyline High School in Oakland, was assigned "a little bit of everything to learn about business practices, dress, ethics and communications," said Henry. In the office, Tommy helped to set up a library. In the field, he brought equipment and parts to mechanics at BART stations and yards. "He also did a lot of computer work, including Internet access," said Henry. "This is what kids like now, getting on the Internet."

Tommy was "a very good worker, a very hard worker," said Henry. "I was very satisfied with his work and would be more than happy to have him back."



Overall, Henry is very pleased with the student intern program. The program reinforces learning, self-worth and community service. "What better place to learn about transportation than at BART?"

Tracy McGee, a junior at El Cerrito High School, returned to intern in the BART Police Department after having served a summer internship in 1999. Tracy worked for Sgt. Nelton Joe, who had him complete a variety of assignments in administration.

"For our interns, I place an emphasis on being responsible, following instructions, being on time, adapting to an adult working environment and following through with all assignments," said Nelton. "The Police Department is on board with providing opportunities to a diverse group of young adults throughout the community to explore and expand much needed work and career oriented experience. The long-term result is to invest in the future."

Nelton also considers participating in the intern program ongoing commitment. "I routinely call Tracy McGee and his mother throughout the year to monitor his career goals and academic progress." **b3**

New Hires and Promotions *Continued from front page*

Jean Mulligan has been promoted to communications supervisor, reporting to Commander Wade Gomes. Jean is working out of BART Police Headquarters in the Dispatch Center where she supervises 14 dispatchers with Communications Supervisor Claudette McNerney. Jean originally joined BART in 1994 as a dispatcher, a position she held for over six years before her promotion. Jean holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California at Berkeley, and a California teaching certificate from Dominican College. She also holds a public safety dispatcher certificate. Jean previously taught in the Lakeport Elementary School District, and was a police dispatcher at San Francisco State University and the East Bay Regional Parks District.

Betty Soo Hoo has been promoted to assistant chief transportation officer, reporting to Chief Transportation Officer Al Johnson. Betty brings more than 25 years of BART transit operations experience

to her new position, including rail, station and working in the Operations Control Center. She is responsible for managing the service delivery between the Fremont and Lake Merritt BART stations and the Hayward Test Track.

Aaron Weinstein has been appointed Manager of Marketing and Research, a new position created by combining the departments of Customer and Performance Research and Marketing.

Aaron had been acting Manager of Marketing. He manages the new Marketing and Research Department, including development and direction of all marketing activities, promotional programs, and programs to measure customer satisfaction and enhance ridership. "Aaron has solid management experience in customer research," said Katherine Strehl, manager of external affairs. "His 'can do' attitude and strong leadership skills will assure Aaron's success in his new role." **b3**



Focus on Respect at "Take Our Sons to Work" Day



Pictured from left to right, Pat Patubo, Michelle Porter, Mike Maeda, Fannie Mackson, Ruby Woo, and Elizabeth Suesue

From engineer to police officer, a variety of job options were presented at BART's "Take Our Sons to Work" day held August 16 at the Metro Auditorium.

Since 1994, BART has invited the sons of District employees to consider their future at BART at the career-focused event. This year's program featured demonstrations by the BART Police canine officer and the Oakland Fire Department, the "Who Wants to be an Engineer?" game show and a tour of the Operations Control Center via the gallery. The theme for this year was "Respect Yourself," emphasizing the qualities and values that help prepare the sons to take the first step toward a career path, and from which they draw upon at work and throughout their lives. "Our program concentrated on making the right choices, education, accountability and integrity," said event coordinator Elizabeth Suesue.

"Take our Sons to Work" was organized into two sessions, each of which began with words of encouragement from Ken Duron, Acting District Secretary. The sons then viewed a video

about BART and the many people in various jobs who have made BART the quality organization that it is today.

The police and fire demonstrations proved to be a highlight for everyone, said Elizabeth. BART Police Lt. Greg Savage coordinated the canine demonstration. BART Police Officer Dennis Parks put canine partner "Jacko" through a law enforcement demonstration, as did BART Police Officer Mike Hayes and canine partner "Zan." The three-year-old German Shepherds stay with the officers during training, active service and in retirement.

The officers explained the importance of building a trusting relationship with the dogs. They demonstrated this through various commands to which the dogs responded without hesitation. In one exercise, one officer in plain clothes took off running as if a suspect, while the other officer gave a verbal command to make chase. The dog would not release the "suspect" until so commanded by the officer.

"Both sons and visiting parents said the BART police demonstration was informative and entertaining," said Elizabeth. "They had wide smiles and positive comments about the canine and fire department demonstrations."

One of the Oakland Fire Department officers was more than happy to share facts about the fire truck, as well as what it is like to be a firefighter, noted Elizabeth. "They had to leave during the morning session for an emergency, but came back in the afternoon to answer sons' questions."

The sons had a blast answering questions about engineering in the game event, "Who Wants to be an Engineer?" that was first introduced in June at the daughters event as BART's twist on the television game show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" The boys and teen men were asked to answer some "zinger" questions to test their knowledge of engineering, said Fannie Mackson, who put the test together. Beaming parents witnessed their sons' accomplishments.





"Who Wants to be an Engineer?" featured Pat Patubo as the "Regis Philbin" host, dressed to the nines in the Philbin signature black shirt, tie and suit. "He did an outstanding job mocking Regis' phrases 'Is That Your Final Answer?' and 'So you like C'," said Fannie Mackson, who developed over 50 questions to test the boys' knowledge. "We gave them one lifeline, ask the audience. The audience wasn't always right, so some contestants had to bow out from giving the wrong answer." Mike Maeda created graphics and sound that made everyone feel like they were really at the "millionaire" TV game show.

Contestants were asked to answer such engineering trivia questions as naming the scientific term for chalk (calcium carbonate) and the subject considered the language of engineers (mathematics). "We also had some fun questions," said Fannie. "We asked them which U.S. President rode BART in 1972, with Tom Margro and Pat Patubo among the choices. We also asked what ATC stood for, with Always Traffic Congestion and Avoid Train Complaints among the possible answers."

Thanks also to volunteers Ana Levi, Margaret Jacobson, Dara McIntosh, Caroline Rogers, BART Police Officers Dave Armacost, Mike Hayes, Jason Ledford and Dennis Parks, along with Sergeant Mike Gonsolin and police canine officers Jacko and Zan. Thanks also to the Oakland Fire Department for all their efforts.

Thanks go to Joseph Vela for his work on the poster; Roger Johnson and Ken Evans for making copies; the Human Resources staff for stuffing 3,300 envelopes; and to Greg Freeman, Robert Garcia and Tony Olson for making sure registration forms were mailed on time.

A big thanks goes to the "Take Our Sons to Work" organizing committee for helping to make the event a success for sons and parents alike. Thanks to Fannie Mackson, Pat Patubo, Michelle Porter, BART Police Lt. Greg Savage, Elizabeth Suesue and Ruby Woo. **b2**

Kids Tour Concord Shop

Local schools looking for a real cool field trip should know that Jim Wiscarson, superintendent at the Concord Shop, oversees a tour program that is an entertaining and informative way for young people to learn about BART.

Most recently, the Concord Tiger Cub Scout Pack and students from the Pioneer Montessori Pre-School visited the Concord Shop. "We started out with snacks for the children," said Jim. "While they're eating, I give them some BART Bump Caps to keep, along with a special BART VIP Pass made for them for the occasion. We also give the kids some BART souvenirs, like lapel pins or collector tickets.

"Then I go over some facts about BART, like daily ridership, size of the system, size of the fleet, Transbay Tube facts, the age of our building and facts relating to rehabilitating our fleet," said Jim. After answering questions, it's off for the tour around the entire shop. "From there we move on to the inside of a new vehicle and explain its workings. If time and maintenance schedules allow, we take the kids for a ride on a BART car through the yard. This concludes the tour."

The program is very popular, he says. "We have yet to have an unsatisfied group. The kids really love it."

b2

Crafts Galore at Holiday Faire



Show Your Holiday Spirit


BART employees show kindness in helping needy families during the Holiday Season. We'd like to tell your story in the next issue of BARTalk about how you and your co-workers helped during the holidays in such activities as "Adopt a Family" programs and aiding local charities. Please e-mail information to Vicki Wills at vwills@bart.gov by January 8, 2001.

BART Beats ABAG in Annual Softball Game

As part of an annual tradition, BART and ABAG softball teams got together for a friendly game at Lowell Field in Oakland. But after some 15 tries, ABAG could not best the BART team, which merged victorious with a 21-5 score. BART has had a softball team since 1994, which plays in various informal games in the area. "We're undefeated in our six-year history," says Captain Greg Wong. Greg says the team is open to playing anyone who would like to issue the challenge. If you're up for a game of softball, give Greg a call at ext. 6571.



Congratulations to the BART softball team. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Greg Freeman, Tim Wong, Ersten Imaoka, Greg Wong, along with (back row, left to right) Kirk Marshall, Mark Pfeiffer, Joe Torrissi, Ed Olivier, Jeff Garcia, Mark Dana and Mark De Loso.

ABAG's team (left to right): Atti Williams, Michelle Williams, Charlene Harrington, Todd Parsnick, Marci Loss, Lisa Calcote, Jim Nagal, Dan Eeds, and Bryan Tse. 



Great Buys!

GT Tequesta Men's Mountain Bike. Mint condition. Paid \$850. Will sell for \$450 or b/o. Also, men's ski's, boots and poles. Great package. Good condition. \$100. Call Julie Renteria at ext. 6166.

Mountain Bikes and Rack too!

Skykomish "Marble Point" full-size men's 21-sp. mountain bike. Blue, flush w/extras. New West full-size men's 18-sp. mountain bike. Dark green, flush w/extras. Truck-Mounting bike rack. Holds two full-size mountain bikes. "Extras" include top-notch light, heavy-duty "gear" bags. \$150 each, \$50 for rack or \$300 for both bikes and the rack. Call Ron at ext. 7139

Great buy!!

Two 8 ft. sliding aluminum mirror bedroom doors. Never used. \$125. Two 6 ft. white wood vinyl doors. \$50. Call Elliot at 925/227-0618.

Breathtaking View and Sunsets!

Townhouse for rent in Lake Tahoe. 2 bdr., 2 bath, fully furnished and equipped. Half-mile to casinos, nightlife, golf course, beach, ski slopes, etc. Located in Lake Village, NV. adjacent to the national forests for great walks and hiking. \$225-300 per day (holiday special). Call Ted at 510/659-7947.

Cabin for Rent in Twain Harte Area

Two blocks too private beach & horse area (paddle & row-boats, slide off dock). Nearby lakes for boating, fishing and river rafting. Historic parks & caves nearby. Snow ski in winter. Fully equipped, sleeps 8. \$175/weekend, \$65/weekday, \$400/week. Call Sue at ext. 2601 or 925/828-4636.

Time to clean out those drawers, closets and garages! BARTalk's Trash and Treasures column offers you an opportunity to pick up some extra cash for those unwanted items you no longer need. Send your ads—no telephone calls—to Trash & Treasures, BARTalk, LMA-1; E-mail to vwills; or Fax to 510-464-7118.

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